THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Central Universities are fully funded by the Central Government through the University Grants Commission (UGC). A major share of UGC's Non-Plan budget is made available to Central Universities and Delhi Colleges for their maintenance expenditure. Keeping in view the present constraint on the availability of financial resources, Government decided to maintain the level of Non-Plan expenditure of all Ministries/Departments and autonomous bodies during 1992-93 at the level of last year. This has imposed resource constraints on UGC was well as Central Universities.

The Minister of Human Resource Development held consultations with Chairman, UGC and Vice-Chancellors of Central Universities to consider measures to mitigate the financial difficulties being faced by them. On the basis of these consultations, the UGC have withdrawn the Commission's earlier orders of freezing the maintenance grants.

(b) According to the information furnished by UGC, during March-April, 1992 the Commission held a series of consultations with Vice-Chancellors, Registrars, and Finance Officers of Central Universities and Principals of Delhi Colleges to cope with the situation. The economy measures identified in these meetings included reduction of expenditure on telephones, electricity, transport, water, stationery, etc. to the extent of 20 per cent curtailment in expenditure on hospitality, travel, study leave, teaching and non-teaching posts, etc.

(c) Commercial Banks are already providing need-based finance under the "Educational Loans" Scheme.

Suggestion of UNESCO team to Taj Mahal

1681. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE:
SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the world famous monument, Taj Mahal at Agra is losing its white shine;

(b) whether an expert team of UNESCO has suggested the closure of lower tomb Cenotaph Chamber if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is a fact that white marble monument had become rough and slightly coloured; if so, what are the reasons for this deterioration?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The marble surface of Taj Mahal is not losing its white shine.

(b) No Sir.

(c) On account of inherent mineral impurities, present in some of the marble slabs used in the construction of Taj Mahal, one colour steaks exist which is not a recent phenomenon.

प्राथमिक शिक्षा के लिए कम आवंटन

1682. श्री राम जेठमलानी :
श्री वीरेन जे० शाह :
श्री विनोद शर्मा :

क्या मानव संसाधन विकासमंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पहली पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान शिक्षा पर खर्च की जाने वाली राशि सकल घरेलू उत्पाद का 7.86 प्रतिशत